



South Central College

# ENGL 120 Human Diversity in Literature and Film

## Common Course Outline

### Course Information

<b>Description</b>	This course introduces students to works of literature and film with a focus on understanding the literary and cinematic contributions made by under-represented peoples. The course is designed to develop critical thinking, reading, and writing skills, and increase appreciation of the diversity of human experience. (Prerequisites: Must have a score of 78 or higher on the reading portion of the Accuplacer test or completion of READ 0090 with a grade of C or higher). (MNTC Goal Areas 6 and 7)
<b>Total Credits</b>	4
<b>Total Hours</b>	64

### Types of Instruction

Instruction Type	Credits/Hours
Lecture	4/64

### Pre/Corequisites

Prerequisite	Must have a score of 78 or higher on the reading portion of the Accuplacer test or completion of READ 0090 with a grade of C or higher
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### Course Competencies

#### 1. Identify various kinds of literature.

##### Linked External Standards

6c - Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

7a - Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.

##### Learning Objectives

Distinguish between kinds of literature.

Examine literature from various cultures in America that have unique group identities.

Determine how American literature differs from world literature.

Discuss changes in literature throughout history.

#### 2. Analyze/participate in the role of audience.

##### Linked External Standards

6b - Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.

7d - Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups

that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.

#### **Learning Objectives**

Consider the importance of audience for a piece of creative writing.  
Explain how audience response influences interpretation of a piece.  
Determine how cultural identity affects audience interpretation.

### **3. Practice the role of literary critic.**

#### **Linked External Standards**

6c - Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

#### **Learning Objectives**

Develop an awareness of aesthetic and practical criteria for evaluating literature.  
Distinguish between descriptive and prescriptive criticism.

### **4. Use the language of literary structure and form.**

#### **Linked External Standards**

6c - Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

#### **Learning Objectives**

Understand terms such as "rising action," "stanza," "setting," or other literary/film vocabulary.  
Practice interpreting literature using literary and film terms and vocabulary.

### **5. Situate literature in its historical time frame.**

#### **Linked External Standards**

6a - Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.

7b - Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.

#### **Learning Objectives**

Study the history surrounding a particular piece of literature.  
Compare the historical forces of other times to our current time frame.  
Discuss how power and history interact within literature and films.

### **6. Write about literature.**

#### **Linked External Standards**

6c - Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

#### **Learning Objectives**

Use the language of literary criticism to respond to books in writing.  
Apply critical thinking skills to writing about literature.  
Complete short papers and written assignments.

### **7. Formulate personal reactions to literature.**

#### **Linked External Standards**

6e - Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

#### **Learning Objectives**

Use the language of literary criticism to discuss books and films with an informed, personal perspective.  
Compare alternate views of one piece of literature.

### **8. Discuss literature and human diversity.**

#### **Linked External Standards**

6a - Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.

7d - Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and

exclusion.

**Learning Objectives**

Examine literature from various American cultures.

Discuss cultural influence on American literature.

Compare literature across American cultures.

List contributions of various American cultures to the world of literature and film.

**9. Analyze films with a specific focus on human diversity issues.**

**Linked External Standards**

6b - Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.

7c - Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.

**Learning Objectives**

View films from diverse populations.

Discuss cultural influences on films.

Express personal attitudes about cultures represented in films.

**10. Explore films within their specific cultural and historical context.**

**Linked External Standards**

6b - Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.

**Learning Objectives**

Study the historical context of a film.

Study the current cultural context of a film.

**11. Write about films.**

**Linked External Standards**

6c - Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.

**Learning Objectives**

Use the language of film criticism to discuss/respond in writing to films.

Apply critical thinking to interpret and respond in writing to films.

**12. Identify human values within literature.**

**Linked External Standards**

6b - Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.

7d - Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.

**Learning Objectives**

Identify human values and themes in literature and film.

Articulate and respond to the expression of values in various pieces of literature and film.

Describe how racism, discrimination, and bigotry affect human values in literature and film.